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Borough of Rowley Regis

ANNUAL REPORT



OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
for the year
1959


FRANK ASKER, *Medical Officer of Health*
F. T. HARRISON, *Chief Public Health Inspector*



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Public Health Department,
Municipal Buildings,
Old Hill,
Staffs.

September, 1960.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
for the Borough of Rowley Regis.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1959, in which is incorporated the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector. The report is prepared in accordance with instructions contained in the Ministry of Health Circular No. 1/60 dated 8th January, 1960.

From a study of the Vital Statistics it will be seen that there has been a slight fall in both the Birth Rate and Death Rate. The Birth Rate was 12.19 per 1,000 population (12.57 in 1958) and the Death Rate was 9.32 per 1,000 population (9.76 in 1958). Nine deaths were registered in children under the age of one year, 6 of which occurred during the first four weeks of life. The Infant Mortality rate was 14.94 per 1,000 live births (25.97 in 1958).

There was a marked increase in the number of cases of Infectious Disease notified as compared with the preceding year, 801 cases as against 65. This was due in the main to the fact that there were 687 cases of measles notified as compared with 10 in 1958. By referring to the part of the report dealing with Poliomyelitis Vaccination it will be seen that 2,502 children of school age and under received a primary course of vaccination against Poliomyelitis and in addition 1,179 received "booster" doses. In addition 2,317 persons over school age received a primary course of immunisation and 164 received "booster" doses. There were no notifications of Poliomyelitis during the year.

As in past years the routine work of the Department was satisfactorily carried out by the Public Health Inspectors under the able direction of Mr. F.T.Harrison, the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Once again it is my pleasure to place on record my appreciation of the loyalty and co-operation of my staff and of the help and consideration so willingly given by the members of the Council, especially those who serve as members of the Public

Health Committee.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient Servant,

F. ASKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

CONSTITUTION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

as at 31st December, 1959.

Chairman: Alderman Mrs. P. Pritchard

Vice-Chairman: Councillor N.E.Thorne

Aldermen R. Downing and T. Deeley, J.P., Councillors J. Adams, F. Forrest, E.S.Greenway, J. T. Millington, E. Wakeman, V.W.Wakeman, W.H. Walker, W.J.Ward, A. Westwood, B. Willetts, and C. Williams.

MEMBERS OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL

on the

ROWLEY REGIS AREA HEALTH COMMITTEE

Aldermen T. Deeley, J.P., G.A.Smith J.P., S.Walker, Councillors F. Forrest and D. Underhill.

*Councillor A.J. Barker, C.C., and Alderman J.P.Pennington J.P., C.A.

*Note: These members were appointed by the Staffordshire County Council.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:-

FRANK ASKER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:-

FREDERICK T. HARRISON, D.P.A., M.S.I.A., Public Health Inspector's Certificate, Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate, Smoke Inspector's Certificate, Certificate of Institute of Sanitary Engineers, Royal Sanitary Institute Sanitary Science Certificate.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:-

LEONARD COOMBES, M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H.H., Public Health Inspector's Certificate, Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate and Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:-

LASHFORD R. TURBIN, M.S.I.A., Public Health Inspector's Certificate and Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate.

BASIL HORACE JOHN RICHARDS, M.S.I.A., Public Health Inspector's Certificate, Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate, and Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

KENNETH F. WESTON, M.S.I.A., Public Health Inspector's Certificate, Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate and Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

Student/Clerks: Alan Hingley.
David A. Baker (Commenced duties on 1st April, 1959).

Clerks: Miss D. Morgan, Chief Clerk.
Miss T. Shaw.
Miss B. Rawlings.
Miss M. Hawker.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Population (Registrar General's Estimate mid-year 1959)	49,350
Population(Census)	49,409
Number of inhabited houses (at 31st December, 1959 according to the Rate Books)	15,348
Rateable Value (at 1st April, 1959)	£460,317
Product of a Penny Rate for the year 1959-60	£2,264. 19. 0

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Although parts of the Tividale and Rowley Regis Wards are agriculture in character, the district is essentially an industrial one. The manufacture of iron goods, such as nails, rivets, tubes, shovels, chains and anchors, holloware, electrical fittings, being amongst the chief industries. A hard basaltic rock known as 'Rowley Rag' is quarried from the hills and is largely used for paving and channelling purposes.

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate ...	318	270	588
Illegitimate ...	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>14</u>
Totals	<u>325</u>	<u>277</u>	<u>602</u>

*Birth Rate per 1,000 population = 12.19

STILL BIRTHS: Male 8 Female 6 Total 14

Rate per 1,000 population ... 0.28

Rate per 1,000 live and still births ... 22.72

DEATHS:

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
258	202	460

*Death Rate per 1,000 population ... 9.32

Deaths from puerperal causes ... Nil

Rate per 1,000 live and still births =

Deaths of infants under one year of age:

All Infants: 9 Legitimate: 9 Illegitimate =

Death Rate of all infants per 1,000 live births 14.95

Death Rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate
live births ... 15.30

Death Rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000
illegitimate live births ... Nil

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age:

All Infants: 6 Legitimate: 6 Illegitimate: =

* It will be apparent that the Birth and Death Rate of any area is bound to be influenced by the age and sex distribution of the population so that in order that truer comparisons can be made between one area and another the actual Birth and Death Rates are multiplied by a number called the "comparability factor" the result being known as the Corrected Birth or Death Rate. These "comparability factors" are supplied by the Registrar General and are based on the age and sex distribution of the population as shown by the census. For Rowley Regis they are as follows:-

Comparability Factor for births 0.95 and for deaths 1.39 and the corrected Birth Rate is 11.580 per 1,000 population, and the corrected Death Rate is 12.95 per 1,000 population.

Deaths from:

Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
Measles (all ages)	-
Diphtheria	-
Meningococcal infection	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1

BIRTHS

The total live births accredited to Rowley Regis during the year under review was 602, a decrease of 14 on the preceding year. The birth rate for the area was 12.19 which figure is lower than that for the whole of the country (viz, 16.5). Of these 602 births, 14 were illegitimate (7 male and 7 female).

REGISTRAR - GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES
OF DEATH IN THIS AREA

Cause of Death	M.	F.	Total
ALL CAUSES	258	202	460
Tuberculosis Respiratory	4	-	4
Tuberculosis, other	-	1	1
Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	-	1
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm stomach	6	1	7
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	14	-	14
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	8	8
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	5	5
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	17	14	31
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	2	-	2
Diabetes	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	24	47	71
Coronary Disease, Angina	39	22	61
Hypertension with Heart Disease	7	7	14
Other Heart Disease	43	51	94
Other Circulatory disease	3	7	10
Influenza	7	2	9
Pneumonia	15	7	22
Bronchitis	33	4	37
Other disease of respiratory system	3	-	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	2	4
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	-	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	1	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	14	13	27
Motor vehicle accidents	6	2	8
All other accidents	8	3	11
Suicide	2	4	6
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-

GENERAL REMARKS ON THE DEATH RATE

460 deaths were recorded in Rowley Regis in 1959. The general rate showed a decrease, viz, 9.32 as compared with 9.76 in 1958. The highest number of deaths were attributable to the following causes:-

Diseases of the Heart and Circulation	...	169
Cancer	... ..	67
Respiratory disease (excluding Tuberculosis)		62
Diseases of the Nervous System	... ..	71

ABNORMAL SICKNESS OR MORTALITY

There have been no unusual excessive mortality during the year nor have the occupations or environment of the district had any demonstrably detrimental effect upon the public health.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

Bacteriological and pathological examination of clinical material, water, milk and foodstuffs is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, which is under the direction of Dr. Mackay-Skolley. Chemical analysis is carried out at the County Chemical Laboratory under the direction of A. Houlbrooke, Esq., M.Sc., F.R.I.C., County Analyst.

Ambulance Facilities

Ambulances are provided by the County Council for the transport of infectious and non-infectious cases. The service is free and available at any hour of the day or night.

Hospital Facilities

There are no hospitals sited in the Borough so that the inhabitants have to use those situated in neighbouring areas. The chief ones are the Corbett Hospital, Stourbridge; the Guest Hospital, Dudley and the City of Birmingham Hospitals.

Infectious Diseases

The majority of cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment are admitted to the Moxley Isolation Hospital, Wednesbury. No difficulty is experienced in removing cases.

Tuberculosis

The care and treatment of Tuberculosis is the responsibility of Birmingham Regional Hospital Board. Clinics are held daily at Parsons Street, Dudley. Sanatoria are situated at Groundslow, Prestwood, Kinver and Himley.

Clinics and Treatment Centres

School clinics and Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics, etc., are provided by the County Council and are held at Mace Street Clinic, Carlyle Road Clinic and Public Offices, Tividale.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

(a) Maternal Mortality. No maternal deaths occurred during the year.

(b) Infantile Mortality. 9 deaths were registered in children under 1 year of which 6 occurred under the age of 4 weeks. The infantile mortality rate of 14.95 was lower than the figure for 1958 which was 25.97.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There were 801 cases of Infectious Disease notified during 1959 as compared with 65 in 1958. The following table shows the actual number of cases of the various types of diseases which were notified during the year together with the number after correction.

Disease	Number notified	Number after correction
Scarlet Fever 	53	53
Whooping Cough 	17	17
Poliomyelitis - Paralytic	-	-
Non-Paralytic	-	-
Measles 	687	687
Diphtheria 	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-
Pneumonia 	21	21
Erysipelas 	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	-	-
Dysentery 	-	-
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	20	20
Non-Respiratory	2	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1

SCARLET FEVER. There were 53 cases of Scarlet Fever notified during the year as compared with 27 cases in 1958. 4 cases were removed to Hospital, the remainder being treated at home. The disease was of a mild type and there were no deaths. Cases are only removed to Hospital if they cannot be properly treated at home, or if there are reasons in the Public interest why they should be isolated in Hospital.

WHOOPIING COUGH. There were 17 cases of whooping cough notified (3 in 1958) 2 of which were removed to Hospital. There was one death from this disease. 190 children were immunised against Whooping Cough during the year.

POLIOMYELITIS. No cases of poliomyelitis were notified in the district during the year.

MEASLES. There were 687 cases of measles notified during the year (10 in 1958). There were no deaths from this disease.

DIPHTHERIA. There were no cases of Diphtheria during the year. There can be no doubt that this low incidence is the result of the vigorous immunisation that has been carried out during the past years.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION. This is carried out by the County Council either by their Medical Officers or by arrangement with medical practitioners. The following statistics with reference to immunisation have been supplied by Dr. W.A. McLennan, Area Medical Officer.

Rowley Regis	<u>Age</u> at date of final injection (as regards A) or of reinforcing injection (as regards B)			
	Under 1 year	1 - 4 years	5 - 14 years	Total
A. Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation during the year ended 31st December, 1959.	228	150	83	461
B. Number of children who received a secondary (reinforcing) - injection during the year ended 31st December, 1959.		18	2,316	2,334

TUBERCULOSIS. There were 20 notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 2 of Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis during the year as compared with 19 and 1 during 1958. There were 4 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis (8 in 1958), and 1 death from Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis (no deaths in 1958). The following table shows the new cases in the various age groups, and also the deaths.

Age Periods Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Female	Male	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 - 5	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	3	1	2	-	1	-	-	-
45 - 64	5	1	-	-	2	-	-	1
65 and over	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Total	11	9	2	-	4	-	-	1

Home visiting of these cases is carried out by the County Council Health Visitors and copies of their reports are supplied to me.

Information as to any sanitary defect or overcrowding is contained in these reports which enables us to take any necessary action to abate them. Cases of overcrowding are reported through to the Housing Department with a recommendation re re-housing and wherever possible the Estates Management Committee have granted the tenancy of a Council House. Close and effective co-operation exists between the Public Health Department and the Housing Department.

The following table shows the number of cases admitted to hospitals during the year:-

Name of Institution	Number of admissions	Number of discharges
Prestwood Sanatorium	9	15

MASS MINIATURE RADIOGRAPHY

No surveys were carried out during the year, in this area.

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

This service is carried out by the County Council and I am indebted to Dr. W.A.McLennan, Area Medical Officer, for the following information.

The tables set out below show the Poliomyelitis vaccinations carried out in the Borough during the year ended 31st December, 1959.

Year of Birth	Primary Course		Total	Year of Birth	Boost Injection		
	M.	F.			M.	F.	Total
1943 to 1959	1,244	1,258	2,502	1943 to 1959	590	589	1,179
1920 to 1942	956	1,353	2,309	1920 to 1942	58	101	159
Born before 1920	4	4	8	Born before 1920	1	4	5

SMALL POX VACCINATION

There were no cases of small pox notified during the year. 220 children under the age of 5 years were vaccinated in 1959.

SCABIES

Facilities are available for the treatment of scabies but no cases were treated.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF EMPLOYEES

During the year, 36 entrants to the Corporation's employment were examined as to fitness for inclusion in the Superannuation and Sick Pay Schemes.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951.

No persons were removed to hospital under the above Act, during the year 1959.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Rowley Regis.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have taken the opportunity in my sixth Annual Report to comment in some detail on the progress made in Slum Clearance, and this is to be found in the body of the report.

Further progress has been made in all the work of my Department due in the main to an unchanged Staff, suitably encouraged and directed, and to the co-operation of the Medical Officer of Health and other Officers of the Council. The Health Committee earn special mention for their encouragement and determination to make the service efficient and economical.

Public Cleansing experienced a successful year although the winter is becoming progressively more of a trial owing to the excessive number of bins per round. The Council have wisely allowed in their Estimates for an additional small bin round in the event of a breakdown during the coming winter.

No report would be complete without offering thanks to my Deputy, Mr. L. Coombes and the Staff of the Department, to the Cleansing Foreman, Mr. H. Thompson and his staff of workmen, and finally to the Chief Clerk, Miss D. Morgan and the typists who cheerfully carry out the work which renders this report possible.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. T. HARRISON,

Chief Public Health Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

- (i) The water is supplied by The South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, and is satisfactory in both (a) quantity and (b) quality.

This water is supplied to the Company in bulk from Birmingham, where the principal source of supply is obtained from the gathering ground of the rivers Elan and Claerwen in Mid-Wales.

- (ii) There is a piped water supply throughout the district except as follows:-

117-118, Corngreaves Road, Cradley Heath.
Bishton, Oakham Fields, Oakham.

The following samples were taken by the Department:-

Bishton, Oakham Fields. (Well)	1 Chemical 1 Bacteriological	Satisfactory Unsatisfactory
117, Corngreaves Road (Well)	1 Chemical 1 Bacteriological	Satisfactory Satisfactory
Municipal Buildings, Old Hill. (Mains)	1 Bacteriological	Satisfactory
Haden Hill Park. (Swimming Bath)	1 Bacteriological	Satisfactory

- (iii) The water is not of an acidic nature; and
- (iv) No action for contamination was necessary.
- (v) The Public water mains supply direct-is as follows:

(a) Houses ... 15,348
(b) Population 49,350 (Est. 1959)

By means of standpipes:

(a) No. of standpipes ... 13
(b) No. of houses supplied 31

All the standpipes are in close proximity to the houses which are scheduled as unfit and are being dealt with.

SWIMMING BATHS

Haden Hill Park: Fill and Empty Bath, water changed weekly from the public supply. Manual chlorination. Although carefully supervised, this type of bath is unsatisfactory from a Public Health standpoint.

63 Lovibond Comparator tests give 55 satisfactory and 8 unsatisfactory results.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The greater part of the sewage passes down the Upper Stour Valley Main Sewerage Board's sewers, and is dealt with on the land irrigation principle at Whittington, Near Stourbridge, the effluent being discharged into the River Stour.

A small sewage disposal works is in use at Tividale, the effluent being discharged into a tributary of the Tame.

New drainage work under the Local Building Byelaws is supervised by the Building Inspector, but general repair work, in compliance with notices served is done through the Public Health Department.

No. of yards of new drainage laid	35
No. of new chambers	2
New ventilation pipes fixed	1
No. of drains unstopped by Council	237
Drains tested	14
Additional W.C's provided	2

All the new plans are submitted to the Public Health Inspectors for scrutiny which is particular helpful for both Departments.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

No new pollution was reported during the year.

PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICES

There are 31 cesspools within the Borough and these are emptied regularly by a gully emptier from the Borough Surveyor's Department.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

A weekly collection has been maintained although this becomes more difficult in winter months and during exceptional sickness among the workmen, the latter fortunately being rare. In the last five years the number of bins to be emptied weekly has increased by 1,100 and the staff has not been increased at all.

During the course of the year the County Crawler was used to prepare a new tip at Hayseech, the site of a future football pitch. A considerable saving was effected by hiring a scraper and stacking soil for final cover from the field itself, and tipping is now in progress. Already it is estimated that the Crawler has saved half its cost price and a further considerable saving will be effected in opening up the New Birmingham Road Tip as against preparation by Contract.

It is to be hoped that the Council will secure the Forge Lane site as a future tip; to use the New Birmingham Road site for the whole area would be uneconomical in haulage from the main centres of population.

This service continues to be both efficient and economical.

REFUSE COLLECTION STATISTICS

The number of bins and pails in the Borough on 31st December, 1959.			The total number of trade refuse bins collected during the financial year 1958/59 and charged for at the rate of ninepence each.
<u>Round</u>	<u>Bins</u>	<u>Pails</u>	
1	3,346	1	2,274
2	3,157	8	4,132
3	3,267	2	1,191
4	3,588	19	990
5	3,119	16	818
TOTALS	16,477	46	9,405

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

	1958 - 59
Area (statute acres)	3,793
Population (Est. 1958)	49,240
Total refuse collected (Tons) actual	13,741
Weight (cwts) per 1,000 population per day (365 days to year)	15.29
Number of premises from which refuse is collected	15,743
Average haul (miles) by <u>collection</u> vehicle to disposal point (single journey)	2½
Total refuse disposed of	13,940 tons
Methods of disposal (salvage excluded):-	100%
Controlled tipping	
Method of collection : 5 mechanical vehicles	
Number of employees:-	
Collection : 20. Disposal : 1. Foreman : 1.	

Salvage and Trade Refuse
and tonnage:-

Analysis of Income

	Income 1958 - 59	Tonnage Collected 1958 - 59	
	£	Tons.	Cwts.
Salvage:			
Scrap metal	11	4.	0.
Waste paper	1,799	240.	0.
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,810	244.	0.
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Trade refuse	£ 463	343 tons	
		(including	
		199 tons	
		disposal only)	

COST STATEMENT

Particulars	1958 - 59		
	Collection	Disposal	Totals
1. GROSS EXPENDITURE:	£	£	£
(i) Labour	12,477	-	12,477
(ii) Transport	9,926	650	10,576
(iii) Plant, equipment, land and buildings	110 *	151	261
(iv) Other items	848	193	1,041
(v) Total gross expenditure	23,361	994	24,355
2. GROSS INCOME (including £NIL received from other local authorities)	367	1,907	2,274
3. NET COST	22,994	Cr. 913	22,081
4. Capital expenditure met from revenue (including above)	NIL	NIL	NIL
UNIT COSTS	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5. Gross cost per ton, labour only	18. 2.	-	18. 2.
6. Gross cost per ton, transport only	14. 6.	11.	15. 5.
7. Net cost (all expenditure) per ton	33. 6.	Cr. 1. 4.	32. 2.
	£	£	£
8. Net cost per 1,000 population	467	Cr. 19	448
9. Net cost per 1,000 premises	1,461	Cr. 58	1,403

* Excludes £2,844 - Cost of Dustbin Scheme.

PROVISION OF DUSTBINS

Under the scheme, dustbins are renewed as a rate charge and bins to new houses, including new Corporation houses are charged for.

	<u>1958-59</u>	<u>1959-60</u>
Number of bins renewed	1,902	1,311
Bins provided to New Corporation Houses	60	118
Net cost as a Charge on the Rates	£2,842	£1,495
Equivalent to a Rate Charge of	1.53d.	.67d.

STREET CLEANSING

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

Mileage of streets cleansed 62.54

Frequency of cleansing:-

(a) At least once daily	...	...	...	9.15 per cent.
(b) Three to five times weekly	...	...	...	12.44 " "
(c) Twice weekly	...	...	...	31.64 " "
(d) Once weekly	...	...	...	44.35 " "
(e) Less than once weekly	..	...	...	2.42 " "

Percentage of street cleansing done by mechanical means 60.35 " "

COST STATEMENT

Particulars	1958-59
REVENUE ACCOUNT	Street Sweeping and Watering
GROSS EXPENDITURE:	£
(i) Labour	4,811
(ii) Transport	4,248
(iii) Plant, equipment, buildings etc.	124
(iv) Other items	100
GROSS INCOME (excluding reimbursements from the Ministry of Transport and the County Council)	-
NET COST	9,283
UNIT COSTS	
Net cost per street mile	148
Net cost per 1,000 population	188

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Damage and misuse continue to be an unnecessary charge on this service in spite of patrols and close supervision.

COSTS FOR 1958 - 59

	£
Labour	937
Maintenance	132
Light and Water	251
Transport	124
Vehicle Reserve	100
Loan Charges	798
Rates	84
	<hr/>
	2,426
Income	176
	<hr/>
Net Cost	2,250
	<hr/>

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

A. THE NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR, 1959

HOUSES

UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Houses where no defects were found to exist	100
Houses where defects were found to exist	453

<u>HOUSES INSPECTED UNDER HOUSING ACTS</u>	319
--	-----

RENT ACT, 1957.

Number of houses inspected for Certificates of Disrepair	19
---	----

TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSES inspected during the year 1959 	891
--	-----

REVISITS to houses for work in progress	3,411
---	-------

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

Nature	Number of Inspections made
Visits for offences under Shops Act ... (Closing Hours)	115
Drains 	444
Public Sanitary Conveniences ...	248
Slaughterhouses 	2,268
Foodstores 	1,263
Piggeries 	26
Factories and Outworkers 	281
Bakehouses 	77
Licensed Premises 	198
Van Dwellings 	452
Carbide Stores 	6
Petroleum Stores 	402
Smoke and Atmospheric Pollution ...	1,149
Infectious Diseases 	69
Pet Animals Act 	6
Cinemas 	31
Rag Flock Act 	6
Wells and water supplies 	10

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

Nature	Number of Inspections made		
Watercourses	115
Ice-Cream Stores	56
Canteens, Cafes and Restaurants	99
Cellulose Stores	42
Street Cleansing	650
Water and sewage in cellars	43
Refuse Tips	482
Mortuaries	69
Survey under Housing Acts	492
Persons in need of care and attention	31
Accumulations	80
Miscellaneous	1,053
Markets	269
Verminous persons and bedding	1
Public Cleansing	24
Schools	5
Food Stalls	12
Houses let in lodgings	5
Burial of the dead	2
Swimming baths	21
Merchandise Marks Act	4

INTERVIEWS WITH OWNERS, BUILDERS, Etc.	1,729
--	-------

COMPLAINTS

Total Number of Complaints received during 1959	-	407
---	---	-----

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING 1959

Nature of defects or nuisances	Total number of defects remedied.
DWELLING HOUSES :	
Roofs	81
Chimneys	103
Brickwork and pointing ..	33
Spouting and fallpipes ..	93
Floor and under floor ventilation ...	19
Dampness	32
Ceiling plaster	48
Wall plaster and skirtings ...	104
Doors and steps	24
Fireplaces and flues	8
Windows, fasteners and cords ...	88
Staircases, handrails, etc. ...	4
Dirty living rooms	19
Dirty bedrooms	15
Dirty staircases	6
Dirty pantries and cellars ...	6
Dirty bedding and persons ...	8
External and Internal painting ...	22
Accumulations	12
Yard paving	4
Dilapidated outbuildings ...	29
Snowboards	5
Flooded cellars	4
Bathrooms	1
Verandah roofs	3
Coalhouse roofs	3
WASHHOUSES :	
Roofs	26
Chimneys	3
Brickwork and pointing ...	9
Ceilings	5
Windows and fasteners ...	1
Doors	1
Boiler and brickwork	6
Insanitary sinks	3
Sink waste pipes	8

Nature of defects or nuisances			Total number of defects remedied
Insufficient water supply	...	...	11
Spoutings	...	...	10

WATER CLOSETS AND DRAINAGE (HOUSES) :

Roofs	...	...	...	26
Brickwork and pointing	...	...	...	7
Floors	...	...	...	2
Doors and steps	...	...	...	18
Spouting and fallpipes	...	...	...	2
Flushing apparatus	...	...	...	29
Pans and joints	...	...	...	28
Seats	...	...	...	7
Drainage	...	...	...	17
Soil and vent. pipes	...	...	...	1
Chambers and covers	...	...	...	7
Obstructed W.C's and drains	...	...	...	9
Dirty W.C's	...	...	...	2
Ceilings	...	...	...	1
Water supply and burst service pipes	...	...	...	18
Light and ventilation and screening walls	...	...	...	18
Wall plaster	...	...	...	3
Windows	...	...	...	5

FACTORIES :

Roofs	...	...	...	2
Walls	...	...	...	3
Spouting and fallpipes	...	...	...	4
Accumulations	...	...	...	1
Fire Escape Requirements	...	...	...	4
Dust and Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...	11
Dangerous buildings	...	...	...	2

WORK PLACES :

Dirty walls	1
-------------	-----	-----	-----	---

FOODSTORES :

Roofs	...	...	...	2
Chimneys	...	...	...	1
Walls	...	...	...	8
Spouting and fallpipes	...	...	...	3
Floors	...	...	...	8

Nature of defects or nuisances				Total number of defects remedied	
Doors and steps	...	...	...	1	
Ceilings	...	...	...	3	
Wall plaster	...	...	...	7	
Windows	...	...	...	3	
Dirty foodrooms, shops or stores	...	...	...	26	
Dirty restrooms, etc.	...	...	...	2	
Dirty fittings and utensils	...	...	...	8	
Dirty water closets	...	...	...	9	
Accumulations	...	...	...	3	
Internal and External Painting	...	...	...	16	
Insufficient drainage	...	...	...	5	
Insufficient water supply	...	...	...	5	
Insufficient washing facilities	...	...	...	11	
Insufficient hot water	...	...	...	23	
Insufficient protection from dust etc.	...	...	...	53	
Insufficient light and ventilation	...	...	...	1	
No cloakrooms	...	...	...	2	
Wash Hand Notices	...	...	...	5	
Insufficient refuse storage facilities	...	...	...	7	
No First Aid Kit	...	...	...	24	
Smoking	...	...	...	2	

BAKEHOUSES :

Roof	...	...	...	1	
Walls	...	...	...	2	
Spoutings	...	...	...	2	
Dirty bakehouses	...	...	...	4	
Dirty storerooms	...	...	...	3	
Internal and External Painting	...	...	...	1	
Insufficient washing facilities	...	...	...	4	
Dirty water closets	...	...	...	4	
Insufficient light and ventilation	...	...	...	1	
Accumulations	...	...	...	3	
Insufficient drainage	...	...	...	2	
Smoking	...	...	...	6	

CANTEENS, RESTAURANTS AND CAFES :

Ceilings	...	...	...	3	
Wall plaster	..	...	...	2	
Dirty Urinals	...	...	...	3	
Dirty canteens, etc.	...	...	...	6	
Dirty storerooms	...	...	...	5	
Dirty kitchens	...	...	...	3	

Nature of defects or nuisances			Total number of defects remedied
Dirty fittings and utensils	...	...	10
Dirty water closets	...	...	10
Internal and External Painting	...	...	1
Insufficient washing facilities	...	...	3
Insufficient or no hot water	...	...	1
No First Aid Kit	...	...	2
Protection from dust	...	...	1
Insufficient ventilation	..	...	1

LICENSED PREMISES :

Roofs	...	...	...	1
Walls	...	...	...	4
Floors	...	...	...	8
Wall plaster	...	...	...	5
Doors	...	...	...	2
Internal and External Painting	...	...	...	15
Dirty public rooms	...	...	...	28
Dirty kitchens	...	...	...	1
Dirty cellars	...	...	...	12
Dirty urinals	...	...	...	7
Insufficient urinal accommodation	...	...	...	2
Dirty water closets	...	...	...	25
Insufficient W.C. accommodation	...	...	...	3
Dirty fittings and utensils	...	...	...	2
Insufficient hot water	...	...	...	11
Insufficient water supply	...	...	...	1
Insufficient washing facilities	...	...	...	6
W.C's not marked Male and Female	...	...	...	7
Insufficient drainage	...	...	...	2
Insufficient light and ventilation	...	...	...	2
Dampness	...	...	...	5
First Aid Outfits Required	...	...	...	8
Insufficient screening to W.C's	...	...	...	2

CELLULOSE STORES :

Fire extinguishing apparatus	...	...	1
Standard Notice Required	...	...	1
Inadequate storage	...	...	3

PETROLEUM STORES :

Defective pumps	...	...	1
Defective hoses	...	...	4

Nature of defects or nuisances				Total number of defects remedied	
Defective covers	...	...	...	1	
Defective ventilation pipes	...	...	...	3	
Insufficient fire extinguishers	...	...	...	23	
"No Smoking" notices required	...	...	...	4	
Tanks tested	...	...	...	1	
SLAUGHTERHOUSES :					
Dirty slaughterhouses	...	...	...	6	
Dirty lairage	...	...	...	5	
Accumulations	...	...	...	1	
Internal and External Painting	...	...	...	1	
PIGGERIES :					
Floors	...	...	...	10	
Dilapidated	...	...	...	1	
Dirty	...	...	...	15	
Accumulations	...	...	...	1	
STABLES :					
Dilapidated	...	...	...	1	
VAN DWELLINGS :					
Occupying caravan without a licence	...	...	...	17	
Occupying land without a licence	...	...	...	60	
Vans removed	...	...	...	1	
CINEMAS AND THEATRES :					
Insufficient fire appliances	...	...	...	2	
Insufficient Exit Notices	...	...	...	9	
Miscellaneous repairs	...	...	...	1	
Seats	...	...	...	2	
Insufficient secondary lighting	...	...	...	8	
Fire Curtains	...	...	...	4	
REFUSE TIPS :					
Smoke nuisances	1	

Nature of defects or nuisances	Total number of defects remedied
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STREET CLEANSING :

Depositing litter	2
Weeds	2

WATERCOURSES :

Polluted	1
----------	-----	-----	---

MARKETS :

Defective W.C's	...	...	2
No name and address on stall	...	...	2

PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION :

Removed to hospital	5
---------------------	-----	-----	---

B. - THE NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED

DURING THE YEAR 1959

(Distinguishing Statutory from Informal)

INFORMAL NOTICES on the books, 31st December, 1958	...	210
FORMAL NOTICES on the books, 31st December, 1958	...	20
INFORMAL NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR 1959	...	698
FORMAL NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR 1959	...	105
		<hr/>
		1,033
		<hr/>

C. - THE RESULT OF THE SERVICE OF SUCH NOTICES

INFORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1959 which were outstanding 31st December, 1958	...	...	165
INFORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1959 which were served during the year	...	...	488
FORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1959 which were outstanding 31st December, 1958	...	...	18
FORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1959 which were served during the year	...	...	57
			<hr/>
			728
			<hr/>
TOTAL NUMBER OF NOTICES on the books 31st December, 1959 -			
FORMAL	...	...	50
INFORMAL	...	...	255
			<hr/>
			305
			<hr/>

NUMBER of dwellinghouses in the district	...	15,348
NUMBER of back-to-back houses included above	...	34
1. <u>Inspections of dwellinghouses during the year 1959 -</u>		
(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	... ..	872
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	... ..	5,173
(2) (a) Number inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations		193
(b) Inspections made for the purpose	....	2,066
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	193
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive to those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	... ..	453
2. <u>Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices -</u>		
Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officer	... ..	351
3. <u>Action under Statutory Powers during the year -</u>		
(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 Housing Act, 1957 :-		
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	... ..	2
(2) Dwellinghouses rendered fit after service of formal notices	...	NIL

(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts -

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	83
(2) Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit after service of formal notices:-			
(a) By Owners	...	...	72
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	...	NIL

(c) Proceedings under Sections 16, 17 and 23 Housing Act, 1957

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	41
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	31
(3) Number of dwellinghouses demolished as a result of informal procedure under Sections 16 and 17	...	...	4
(4) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were served	...	...	2
(5) Number of dwellinghouses closed	...	...	1
(6) Number of dwellinghouses for which undertakings were submitted and accepted by Council	...	...	2
(7) Number of dwellinghouses made fit on undertakings accepted by the Council			NIL

(d) Proceedings under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957:-

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	NIL
--	-----	-----	-----

(2) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit

NIL

CLEARANCE AREAS AND INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES

RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1959

Part A - CLEARANCE AREAS (Housing Acts 1936/57)

	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in the period		Number of persons displaced	Number of families
	Unfit Houses	Other Houses		
(1) Land coloured "Pink"	29	-	225	79
(2) Land coloured "Grey"	-	-	-	-

PART B - HOUSES NOT INCLUDED IN CLEARANCE AREAS

	Number of		Number of Families
	Houses	Persons displaced	
DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS			
(1) Housing Act, 1957:			
(a) Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17 (1)	35	197	66
(b) Houses closed in pursuance of an under- taking given by the owners under Section 16 and still in force	-	-	-
(c) Number of dwellinghouses closed on undertaking to convert back-to-back houses into through houses	-	-	-
(d) Number of dwellinghouses closed in pursuance of Closing Orders made (Section 17)	1	6	2

Eleven Clearance Areas were represented during the year and submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for confirmation.

Name of Area	Addresses	Number of houses
Birmingham Road (Blackheath) No. 1. 1959.	Birmingham Road, Nos. 35, (35A, shop) 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42.	8
Causeway (Blackheath) No. 2. 1959.	Causeway, Nos. 17, 18, 19, 20, 21.	5
Dudley Road West, (Tividale) No. 1. 1959.	Dudley Road West, Nos. 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16.	8
Halesowen Road, (Old Hill) No. 2. 1959.	Halesowen Road, Nos. 298, 299, 300, 301, 302.	5
Heath Street, (Blackheath) No. 1. 1959.	Heath Street, Nos. 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123.	29
Heath Street, (Blackheath) No. 2. 1959.	Heath Street, Nos. 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46.	8
Hill Passage (Old Hill) No. 1. 1959.	Reddal Hill Road, Nos. 2, 3, 4, Barrett's Shop, Hingley's Shop. Hill Passage, Nos. 2, 3, 4, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, (21 Office) 22, 23, 24.	14
Oldbury Road, (Blackheath) No. 4. 1959.	Oldbury Road, Nos. 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58.	7

Name of Area	Addresses	Number of houses
Perry's Lake, (Rowley) No. 1. 1959.	Perry's Lake, Nos. 17A, 18,19,20,21,22,22A,23, 26,27,28,29,30,31,32,33, 34,35,36,37. Tippity Green, Nos. 26, 27,28,29,30,31,32,35,36, 37,38.	31
Queen Street (Cradley Heath) No. 2. 1959.	Queen Street, Nos. 30,31, 32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39, 40,41,42,43,44. 1, 2, 3, 1 Workshop, 1 Store.	18
St. Anne's Road, (Cradley Heath) No. 1. 1959.	St. Anne's Road, Nos. 73, 74,75,76.	4
		<hr/> 137 <hr/>

The following 41 unfit houses have had Demolition Orders placed on them during 1959:-

Blackberry Lane, 45, 45B.

Cradley Road, 46, 47, 48, 49.

Foxoak Street, 30, 31, 32, 82, 83, 84.

Gadds Green, 1, 2, 3.

Halesowen Road, Back 62.

High Street, Blackheath, 158, 159.

Hollybush Street, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6.

Lawrence Lane, 76, 77.

Lodgeforge Road, 6.

Mincing Lane, 46.

Newtown Lane, 26, 27.

Newtown Street, 3, 4, 14, 15, 16, 17.

Silverthorne Lane, 4, 5.

Woods Lane, 34, 35.

Wrights Lane, 73, 74.

The following Individual Unfit Houses had Closing Orders placed on them:-

4, Cradley Road, Cradley Heath.

157, High Street, Blackheath.

Undertakings to render Unfit Houses fit were accepted in the following cases:-

25, Newtown Lane, Cradley Heath.

70, Graingers Lane, Cradley Heath.

The following houses were demolished during 1959:-

In Clearance Areas

Dudley Road, Springfield, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90,
102, 103, 104, 105, 107, 108.

Graingers Lane, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21.

John Street, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68.

Lower High Street, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47.

29

Individual Unfit Houses

Blackberry Lane, 20, 21.

Britannia Street, 22, 23.

Cradley Road, 44, 45.

City Road, 221, 222.

Dudley Road West, 40, 42, 44.

Dudley Road, Springfield, 94, 95.

Gadds Green, 3.

George Avenue, 17.

High Street, Cradley Heath, 1, Stone Yard.

Lodgeforge Road, 6.

Park Street, 18, 19, 20.

Tipton Road, 4, 5.

Turner's Hill, 5, 6.

Upper Chapel Street, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9.

Waterfall Lane, 87, 88, 89, 90.

35

As this is the penultimate year of the original five year slum clearance programme it may be both useful and interesting to summarise the work already done and to give details of what still remains outstanding.

In the first year of the Programme 181 houses were inspected and represented. Progress on re-housing and demolition is as follows:

<u>Clearance Areas</u>	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Houses Vacated</u>	<u>Houses Demolished.</u>
Elbow Street	4	4	4
Lower High Street No. 2.	6	6	6
Lower High Street No. 3.	14	13	5
Grainger's Lane No. 2.	7	7	7
Grainger's Lane No. 3.	5	5	4
Foxoak Street	4	4	4
Providence Street	3	3	3
John Street	5	5	5
Gorsty Hill	3	3	3
Shepherd's Fold	9	9	In progress
Dudley Road No. 2.	5	5	5
Dudley Road No. 3.	6	6	6
Rowley Village No. 5.	4	4	Tender accepted
Rowley Village No. 6.	5	5	5
<u>Individual Unfit Houses:</u>	29	28	25
<u>Orders outstanding:</u>	72	65	55
	181	172	137

IN THE SECOND YEAR 143 houses were inspected and represented. Further progress is shown below:

<u>Clearance Areas</u>	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Houses Vacated</u>	<u>Houses Demolished</u>
Peartree Street	37	27	-
Tippity Green	12	3	-
Hawes Lane	7	5	-
Brades Row	15	13	-
<u>Individual Unfit Houses:</u>	72	68	54
		Undertakings	3
		Closed	2
	143	116	59

IN THE THIRD YEAR 219 houses were inspected and represented. Further progress:

<u>Clearance Areas</u>	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Houses Vacated</u>	<u>Houses Demolished</u>
Brook Lane	12	3	-
Corngreaves Road	4	-	-
Ross No. 1.	9	-	-
Ross No. 2.	3	-	-
Siviter's Lane No. 2.	3	-	-
Church Road	4	3	-
Springfield Lane No. 3.	9	2	-
Springfield Lane No. 4.	58	-	-
Springfield Lane No. 5.	17	-	-
High Street, Old Hill	5	-	-
<u>Individual Unfit Houses:</u>	95	77	17
			3 Closing Orders
Totals	219	85	20

IN THE FOURTH YEAR, ended 31st December 1959, 193 houses were inspected and represented. The Clearance Areas are at the Ministry of Housing and Local Government awaiting Local Inquiries and re-housing of only a few individual unfit houses has taken place.

<u>Clearance Areas</u>	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Houses Vacated</u>	<u>Houses Demolished</u>
Birmingham Road No. 1.	8	-	-
Causeway No. 1.	5	-	-
Dudley Road West No. 1.	8	-	-
Halesowen Road No. 2.	5	-	-
Heath Street No. 1.	29	-	-
Heath Street No. 2.	8	-	-
Hill Passage No. 1.	14	-	-
Oldbury Road No. 4.	7	-	-
Perry's Lake No. 1.	31	2	-
Queen Street, Cradley			
Heath No. 2.	18	-	-
St. Anne's Road No. 1.	4	-	-
<u>Individual Unfit Houses:</u>	56	7	-
Totals	193	9	-

Proposals for the final year include 151 houses.

SUMMARY OF HOUSES
COMPRISING FIVE YEAR PROGRAMME

<u>Programme Year</u>	<u>Clearance Areas</u>	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Outstanding Orders</u>
First Year	80	29	72
Second Year	71	72	-
Third Year	124	95	-
Fourth Year	137	56	-
Fifth Year proposals	107	44	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	519	296	72
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Number in Programme 887 Dealt with as against

Original Proposals 777

The Health Committee have reason to be proud of the progress maintained in dealing with this programme. Few Authorities can claim to have done better, or even as well considering the difficulties inherent in this class of social service.

FURTHER SLUM CLEARANCE PROPOSALS

PART I. THE TOTAL PROBLEM:

(i) Estimated No. of houses remaining unfit for human habitation:

(a) In Represented Clearance Areas	280
(b) Subject to Demolition or Closing Orders	74
(c) Final Year of Current programme	151
(d) Scheduled for future action	400
	<hr/>
	905
	<hr/>

(ii) Period of years which the Council think necessary for securing the demolition of all houses in (1) 9 years

PART 2. ACTION ALREADY TAKEN:

(i) No. of houses represented in Clearance Areas	435
(ii) No. of houses represented as Individual Unfit houses	301
(iii) No. of houses included in (i) & (ii) vacated	382
(iv) No. of above houses now demolished or closed	213

PART 3. FURTHER PROPOSALS FOR ACTION IN THE FIVE YEARS commencing
1st JANUARY, 1961.

(i) No. of houses to be represented in Clearance Areas	340
(ii) No. of houses to be represented as individual unfits	60
(iii) No. of houses to be patched and retained for temporary accommodation	NIL
Total	400

RENT ACT, 1957.

1st JANUARY to 31st DECEMBER, 1959.

PART 1 - APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

1. Number of applications for certificates	19
2. Number of decisions not to issue certificates	NIL
3. Number of decisions to issue certificates	19
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	14
(b) in respect of all defects	5
4. Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	5
5. Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule ...	NIL
6. Number of Certificates issued	15

PART II - APPLICATIONS FOR CANCELLATION OF CERTIFICATES

7. Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates	4
8. Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	NIL
9. Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objection	NIL
10. Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	4

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

During the year two additional W.C's were provided to houses which had no separate accommodation. This makes a total of 393 additional W.C's provided since 1945.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

<u>Dwelling Houses</u>	<u>By Local Authority</u>	<u>By Occupier</u>
Bugs	1	-
Beetles	7	-
Fleas	3	1
Ants	2	-
Crickets	6	-
Other Insects	5	-
<u>Tips</u>		
Crickets	-	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	24	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Visits made concerning the above	...	53
Inspections for tenancy allocations of Council houses	...	445

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to Health

Premises	Number on Register	Number of In- spections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	14	-	-	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	384	259	25	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	27	-	-	-
TOTAL	425	259	25	-

2. CASES WHERE DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
a. Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
b. Unsuitable or defective	20	31	-	5	-
c. Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	33	35	-	-	-
TOTALS	54	67	-	5	-

PART VIII of the ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

	SECTION 110		SECTION 111	
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served
Iron and Steel cables and chains	8	2	1	1
Wearing apparel (making)	5	-	-	-
Carding of buttons etc.	4	-	-	-
TOTALS	17	2	1	1

FIRE ESCAPE CERTIFICATES FOR FACTORIES

Ten certificates have been granted during the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

Strict control of all food premises continued to be exercised by the Department and the co-operation of food traders and handlers is so satisfactory that only in one case was it necessary to resort to court action, reported elsewhere.

FOOD PREMISES

Numbers in the Borough of:

(1) Butchers Shops	...	...	...	...	...	55
(2) Cafes and Restaurants	..	...	...	...	...	10
(3) Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	30
(4) Cooked Meat Shops	...	...	...	...	...	3
(5) Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	30
(6) Wet Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	9
(7) Grocers Shops	...	...	...	...	...	115
(8) Sweet Shops	...	...	...	...	...	35
(9) Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	130
(10) Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	53
(11) Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	14
(12) Sweet Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	4
(13) Mineral Water Manufacturers	..	...	...	...	...	1
						<hr/> 489 <hr/>

PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 16 FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955

(1) Ice-Cream Retailers	...	...	...	...	...	179
(2) Ice-Cream Manufacturers (Cold Mix)	..	...	...	...	...	3
(3) Sausage etc. Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	11
(4) Cooked Meat Preparers	...	...	...	...	...	32
						<hr/> Carried Forward - 225 <hr/>

					Brought Forward	-	225
(5)	Fish Frying	...	...	...	...	...	30
(6)	Jam Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	1
(7)	Potato Crisp Manufacturers		...	...	...		2
							<hr/>
							258
							<hr/>

MEAT INSPECTION

Thirty two slaughtermen's licences were renewed during the year.

Delay in submitting the Report on Slaughterhouses has been caused by difficulty in obtaining Planning Permission for improvements to these premises and the result of an Appeal is awaited.

The quality of slaughtered animals continues to improve and there would appear to be a trend towards the elimination of tuberculosis as a cause of unfitness, probably a direct result of the national work on eradication of this disease.

The following summaries indicate the number and types of animals slaughtered, together with the diseased conditions encountered.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Totals
Number killed	1,251	173	82	8,926	4,155	14,587
Number inspected	1,251	173	82	8,926	4,155	14,587
ALL diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:						
Whole carcasses surrendered	-	1	2	9	2	14
Carcases of which some part or organ was surrendered	198	32	-	144	487	861
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with dis- ease other than Tuberculosis	15.8	18.4	2.4	1.7	11.7	5.9
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcasses surrendered	-	1	-	-	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was surrendered	31	6	-	-	72	109
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with Tuberculosis	2.5	3.5	-	-	1.7	.7
Cysticercosis:						
Carcases of which some part or organ was surrendered	15	1	-	-	-	16
Carcases submitted to refrigeration	15	1	-	-	-	16
Generalized and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

CATTLE OTHER THAN COWS

Parts surrendered with diseases

	C	H & T	L	H	Lv	I & M	K	O
Tuberculosis	-	14	18	1	3	5	-	1
Abscesses	-	1	-	-	26	-	-	1
Fascioliasis	-	-	-	-	120	-	-	-
Cirrhosis	-	-	-	-	19	-	-	-
Pericarditis	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Pleurisy and Pneumonia	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	1
Bruising	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Echinococcus	-	-	6	-	10	-	-	-
C. Bovis	-	4	4	11	-	-	-	2
Actinobacillosis	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Actinomycosis	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fatty Degeneration	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
Haemangiomata	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
Bacterial Necrosis	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	25	35	13	185	5	-	6

C = Carcasses
 H & T = Head and Tongue
 L = Lungs
 H = Heart
 Lv = Liver
 I & M = Intestines and Mesentery
 K = Kidneys
 O = Other parts

COWS

Parts surrendered with diseases

	C	H & T	L	H	Lv	I & M	K	U	O
Tuberculosis	1	6	4	1	2	2	2	1	-
Abscesses	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fascioliasis	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-
Haemangiomata	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-
Pleurisy	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pericarditis	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Emaciation	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	-
Echinococcus Cysts	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Actinomycosis	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Actinobacillosis	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
C. Bovis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTALS	2	10	8	3	26	3	4	2	1

C = Carcases
 H & T = Head and Tongue
 L = Lungs
 H = Heart
 Lv = Liver
 I & M = Intestines and Mesenteries
 K = Kidneys
 U = Udders
 O = Other parts

CALVES

Diseases	C	H	L	H	Lv	K	O
Emaciation	1	1	1	1	1	2	-
Pyæmia	1	1	1	1	1	2	-
TOTALS	2	2	2	2	2	4	-

SHEEP

Diseases	C	H	L	H	Lv	K	O
Emaciation	9	9	9	9	9	18	-
Fascioliasis	-	-	-	-	100	-	-
Cirrhosis	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Pleurisy	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Decomposition	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Melanosis	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Peritonitis	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Echinococcus	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	16	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	9	9	27	9	114	18	2

C = Carcases
 H = Head
 L = Lungs
 H = Heart
 Lv = Liver
 K = Kidneys
 O = Other parts

PIGS

Diseases	C	H	L	H	Lv	K	I	O
Tuberculosis	-	68	3	1	3	-	3	1
Pneumonia and Congestion	-	-	425	-	-	-	-	-
Pleurisy	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
Pericarditis	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-
Peritonitis	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-
Cirrhosis	-	-	-	-	35	-	-	-
Necrosis	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-
Swine Erysipelas	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	-
Abscesses	-	2	-	-	4	-	-	-
TOTALS	2	72	434	23	59	4	5	1

C = Carcases
 H = Heads
 L = Lungs
 H = Hearts
 Lv = Livers
 K = Kidneys
 I = Intestines
 O = Other parts

Year	Tuberculosis discovered in Percentages		
	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Pigs
1954	5.3	28.0	2.2
1955	5.1	17.9	1.7
1956	5.1	20.1	1.9
1957	3.0	22.3	2.2
1958	2.9	12.0	4.9
1959	2.5	3.5	1.7

WEIGHT OF MEAT SURRENDERED

			<u>Tons.</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
BEEF:	Carcase Meat	...		11.	1.	23.
	Offal	...	1.	10.	2.	21.
MUTTON:	Carcase Meat	...		3.	2.	14.
	Offal	...		2.	2.	20.
PORK:	Carcase Meat	...		1.	3.	3.
	Offal (including heads)			14.	1.	16.
TOTAL			3.	4.	2.	13.

UNFIT FOODSTUFFS OTHER THAN BUTCHERS MEAT
SURRENDERED AND DESTROYED

					<u>lbs.</u>
Tinned fish	...	...	...	...	29
" fruit	...	...	...	...	166¼
" meat	...	...	...	...	1,054¼
" milk	...	...	...	...	21½
" soup	...	...	...	...	12¼
" vegetables	.	...	...	...	51¼
" puddings	...	...	...	...	5¼
Cheese	...	...	...	...	56½
Bacon	...	...	...	...	138
Mixed fruit	..	...	...	...	34½
Apples	...	...	...	...	80
Cooked Ham	...	...	...	...	20
Flour	...	...	...	...	35
Potatoes	...	...	...	...	2,016
Meat	...	...	...	...	30
					<hr/>
					3,750¼
					<hr/>

MILK SUPPLY

No principal licences have been issued.

The following licences have been granted:—

Supplementary, Pasteurised	...	...	13
Supplementary, Sterilised	...	...	14
Dealers Licences, Pasteurised	...	...	8
Dealers Licences, Sterilised	...	...	153

FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING 1959

The County Council, acting for and on behalf of the Borough took 252 samples of food as shown below:-

<u>MILK</u>	<u>No. of Samples</u>	<u>No. Adulterated</u>
Pasteurised	17	-
Sterilised	17	-
T.T. Pasteurised	17	-
Channel Isles	9	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	60	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>

<u>GENERAL FOODS</u>	<u>No. of Samples</u>	<u>No. Adulterated</u>
	192	18

ACTION TAKEN ON UNSATISFACTORY SAMPLES

<u>Description</u>	<u>Type of Sample</u>	<u>Nature</u>	<u>Action</u>
1. Luncheon Meat	Formal	Contained 71.3% meat and should contain 80% Sample 10.9% deficient in meat.	Matter taken up with Manufacturers who promised to increase their meat content in future.
2. Sliced Braised Beef.	Formal	Contained 65.1% meat and should contain not less than 95% of meat. Sample 31.4% deficient in meat.	Matter referred to the County Councils Association in an endeavour to have a standard fixed.

<u>Description</u>	<u>Type of Sample</u>	<u>Nature</u>	<u>Action</u>
3. Pork Luncheon Meat	Formal	16.6% deficient of its proportion of meat.	Retailer cautioned, source of supply not known.
4. Eccles Cakes	Formal	Deficient of its proper proportion of butter fat.	Matter taken up with Manufacturers.
5. Chorley Cakes containing pure butter	Formal	Deficient of its proper proportion of butter fat.	Words "containing pure butter" omitted from new labels.
6. Casserole Steak	Formal	30.3% deficient in meat.	In the absence of a fixed standard, discussions taking place with Importers.
7. Beef steak with gravy	Informal	Contained only 52.0% of meat instead of at least 75% of meat.	Formal repeat sample taken.
8. Tonic Vegetable Concentrate	Formal	Contained only about half the amount of Pro-Vitamin A, two thirds the amount of Vitamin C and only four fifths the amount of Iron claimed to be present.	Matter taken up with the Manufacturers Research department and as a result further tests on the article were found to be genuine.

<u>Description</u>	<u>Type of Sample</u>	<u>Nature</u>	<u>Action</u>
9. Food Supplement	Informal	Contained little more than half the amount of Lecithin stated to be present.	Formal sample taken and found to be genuine.
10. Ready Cooked Pork.	Informal	Contained 76.0% meat and should contain not less than 95%	Formal sample taken and found to be genuine.
11. Red Salmon	Informal	Contained an excessive amount of added water.	No further stocks available.
12. Fully Sweetened Rice Pudding	Informal	Contents of tin mainly liquid and so regarded as unsuitable for use by a purchaser.	Formal sample taken and found to be genuine.
13. Casserole Steak.	Formal	Contained 73.3% meat when article sold under this description should contain 95% of meat.	Matter taken up with Manufacturers.
14. Pork Luncheon Meat	Formal	Contained 70.3% meat and should contain 80%	Matter taken up with Manufacturers.
15. Minced Beef with Onion	Formal	35.8% deficient of its proper proportion of meat.	Product now being labelled "Minced Beef with Onion and Gravy".

<u>Description</u>	<u>Type of Sample</u>	<u>Nature</u>	<u>Action</u>
16. Pork Sausage containing preservative.	Formal	8.9% deficient of its proper proportion of meat.	Caution given. Meat content being increased.
17. Butter Cream Slices.	Formal	Cream filling contained 30% fat of which only one sixth appeared to be butter fat.	Insufficient material for Public Analyst to confirm his findings. Further samples being taken for analysis.
18. Cream Doughnuts.	Formal	Cream filling contained 26% fat of which only one fifth appeared to be butter fat.	Insufficient material for Public Analyst to confirm his findings. Further samples being taken for analysis.

The County Medical Officer has kindly supplied the following particulars of the examination of milk samples taken during the year:-

Bacteriological Tests -

Satisfactory Unsatisfactory

Tuberculin Tested	...	65	-
(Pasteurised)			
Pasteurised	...	103	2
Sterilised	...	37	-

OTHER SAMPLES TAKEN

<u>Food</u>	<u>Complaint</u>	<u>Analysts Report</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
1. Orange Drink	Bitter taste	Satisfactory	-
2. Cereal Food	Taste	Slight deterioration and development of fat rancidity.	Warning letter sent to shopkeeper.
3. Bread	Pink Mould	Mould Neurospora Sitophila (Fairly widespread)	Advice to Housewife re Storage.

FOOD POISONING

There were no cases of food poisoning reported during the year.

STORAGE OF PETROLEUM Etc.

Implementation of the new Home Office Code took up a considerable amount of inspecting time in spite of valuable assistance rendered by the Fire Brigade personnel. The rewiring and in some cases the renewal of electrical pumps has been required to comply with the new standards of safety, as a condition to the renewal of the Licence. A standard electrical certificate has been formulated for completion by a competent electrical engineer and much of the work required has already

been done and the remainder is in hand.

Although I do not consider extraneous duties of this nature appropriate to the Department, the work has been taken most seriously and everything insisted upon for the safety and welfare of the public.

The following licences have been granted:-

	<u>Premises</u>	<u>Gallons</u>
Petroleum Spirit	116	137,977
Rubber Solvent	1	1,000
Rubber Solution	1	100
Cellulose Paint & Mixtures	14	828
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	132	139,905
	<hr/>	<hr/>

	<u>Premises</u>	<u>Tons.</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
Carbide of Calcium	5	2.	2.	3.	20.

PUBLIC MORTUARY

A total of 34 bodies were admitted during 1959. The cost of this service for the financial year 1958 - 59 is given below:

Labour	184
Building Maintenance	77
Rates and Loan Charges	63
	<hr/>
	324
	<hr/>

RAG FLOCK ACT

Twelve samples were taken during the year and all were satisfactory.

PROSECUTIONS 1959

Public Health Act, 1936

	<u>Offence</u>	<u>Result</u>
1. Sec. 58.	Dangerous factory roof.	Withdrawn on payment of costs. Work completed.
2. Sec. 93.	House defects.	Withdrawn on payment of costs. Work completed.
3. Sec. 93.	House defects.	Withdrawn on payment of costs. Work completed.
4. Sec. 58.	Dangerous chain shop.	Withdrawn on payment of costs. Work completed.
5. Secs. 39, 58 & 93.	House defects.	Withdrawn on payment of costs. Work completed.
6. Sec. 93.	House defects.	Withdrawn on payment of costs. Work completed.
7. Secs. 45 & 58.	Condition of W.C. compartment.	Withdrawn on payment of costs. Work completed.
8. Secs. 39, 58 & 93.	House defects.	Withdrawn on payment of costs. Work completed.
9. Sec. 39.	Defective drainage.	Fined £2 and 14 day order.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

10. Sec. 4.	Accumulation of rubbish.	Fined £5 and 14 day order.
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	<u>Offence</u>	<u>Result</u>
11.	Reg. 16 (1) (2) No hot water supply.	Fined £2.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Definite improvements have been effected by modernizing and improving the dust extraction arrangements employed by the local granite quarries and we now only suffer minor complaints during dry weather and breakdowns in the plant, fortunately not frequent occurrences.

Experiments continue in an effort to produce suitable apparatus for the local industry of chain making - apparatus which must attain a reasonable efficiency in grit extraction and yet be simple and inexpensive to meet the requirements of 'best practicable means'.

Dark smoke, the main target of the Clean Air Act, is negligible in this Borough except for lighting up certain reheating and annealing furnaces. The usual sources of dark smoke nuisance have been effectively dealt with and new sources will not be tolerated. The swing to oil has regained some of its momentum and obviously not entirely because of smoke nuisance, although more expensive many practicable advantages result from its use as against solid fuel in most furnaces.

Although the district is not a smoky one we still have far more than our fair share of sulphur dioxide pollution from many sources, including domestic. The control of fumes of many kinds is now exercising the minds of our inspectorate and we shall continue to effect improvements wherever this is practicable.

The Council still continues to oppose the principle of Smoke Control Areas and a methodical programme submitted to the Health Committee was deferred. No doubt the problem will have to be faced, and in a district such as this the difficulty will be more one of public relations than of finance.

The Authorities adjoining Rowley Regis (Dudley, Brierley Hill, Halesowen, Tipton and West Bromwich) are each engaged in this work, and the ideal would be for their smoke control areas to join those of Rowley Regis to form a large smokeless belt in the Black Country.

TONS PER SQUARE MILE - SOLIDS DEPOSITED DURING
THE LAST SIX YEARS

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>MONTHLY AVERAGE</u>	<u>TOTAL DEPOSITS</u>
	* <u>OLD HILL</u>	! <u>BLACKHEATH</u>
1954	20.09	14.06
1955	17.51	14.36
1956	16.22	14.47
1957	15.94	12.99
1958	15.06	12.17
1959	15.27	12.13

* Low-Lying Industrial Area.

! Higher Ground - Mainly Residential.

1959 Month	Total solids per sq. mile in Tons		Rainfall in Inches	SO ₃ in Milligrams per 100 sq. Centimetres		Seasonal Average SO ₃ in Mg. per 100 sq. C.M.
	Old Hill	Blackheath		Old Hill	Blackheath	
JANUARY	14.00	10.45	2.58	8.28	4.79	Summer - Apr - Sept. (incl)
FEBRUARY	11.25	9.89	0.24	7.25	3.43	
MARCH	23.13	13.66	1.93	6.77	2.86	
APRIL	15.46	17.92	3.43	5.88	1.91	Old Hill 2.94
MAY	19.96	11.25	1.10	2.74	1.86	
JUNE	18.15	13.20	1.14	2.11	1.09	Blackheath 1.66
JULY	10.68	10.12	1.93	2.20	0.99	
AUGUST	8.96	9.56	2.34	2.17	2.24	Winter - Jan - Mar. and Oct. - Dec. (incl)
SEPTEMBER	9.70	9.67	0.17	2.53	1.89	
OCTOBER	15.63	12.55	2.64	2.97	1.65	
NOVEMBER	19.35	12.05	3.55	5.69	2.26	Old Hill 6.05 Bla. 2.95
DECEMBER	16.82	15.27	3.90	5.36	2.73	
Monthly Average	15.27	12.13	2.08	4.49	2.31	

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Report for 9 Months Ended 31st December, 1959.

	Type of Property			All other (including business & industrial	Total
	Local Auth- ority	Dwelling houses	Agricul- tural		
1. Total No. of properties in Local Authority's district.	15	15,348	5	1,637	17,005
2. No. of properties inspected by the Local Authority during the 9 months ended 31st December 1959 as a result of					
(a) notification	a 8	167	-	18	193
(b) survey under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	b 2	49	-	3	54
(c) otherwise e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose.	c -	3,672	-	3,614	7,286
3. No. of properties inspected (under 2) which were found to be infested with rats.	Major	-	-	1	1
	Minor 8	163	-	17	188
4. No. of properties inspected (under 2) which were found to be infested by mice.	Minor	53	-	3	56
5. No. of infested properties (under 3 & 4) treated by the Local Authority.	8	216	-	21	245
6. No. of notices served under Sec 4:					
1. Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
2. Structural works (proofing)	-	1	-	-	1
7. No. of Block Control Schemes carried out.	-	-	-	-	-

